

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application of:)

Applicant(s): Tawa et al.)

Serial No.:)

Conf. No.:)

Filed: July 21, 2003)

For: OPTICAL STORAGE DEVICE)

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

07/21/03

Date

L. Nelson
Express Mail No. EL846178956US

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

300 South Wacker Drive – Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 360-0080
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315
Customer Number 24978

By: *James K. Folker*
James K. Folker, Reg. No. 37,538

Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office				Attorney Docket No.: 3531.68177		Serial No.:	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicants: Tawata et al.			
				Filing Date: July 21, 2003		Group:	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	11-328716	Nov. 30, 1999	Japan			Abs.	
	10-302289	Nov. 13, 1998	Japan			Abs.	
	10-320815	Dec. 4, 1998	Japan			Abs.	
	06-259804	Sep. 16, 1994	Japan			Abs.	
	09-270145	Oct. 14, 1997	Japan			Abs.	
	2000-268391	Sep. 29, 2000	Japan			Abs.	
	2000-105943	Apr. 11, 2000	Japan			Abs.	
	2001-076371	Mar. 23, 2001	Japan			Abs.	
	2000-260052	Sep. 22, 2000	Japan			Abs.	
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
Examiner				Date Considered			
*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							